SAH 7-19.02 NIP-243

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

M. NISHIDA et al

Serial No. 09/940,593

Group Art Unit: 1744

Filed: August 29, 2001

For: REAGENT SETUP METHOD AND REAGENT

SETUP PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 7-9.

REMARKS

Examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Mattingly)
Registration (Mo. 20,293)

Attorney for Applicants

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Date: July 16, 2002

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Date: July 16, 2002

Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

By:

Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary.

Attorney for Applicant(s)

John R. Mattingly Registration No.